

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: §  
Howlid et al. §  
Serial No.: 10/552,795 § Group Art Unit: 3663  
Confirmation No.: 4505 § Examiner: Scott A. Hughes  
Filed: July 13, 2006 §  
For: ACTIVE STEERING FOR MARINE § Atty Dkt.: 14-0228-PCT-US  
SEISMIC SOURCES § (WGEC0075)  
§

Dear Examiner:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 29, 2008**

In response to the Office Action dated December 29, 2008, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 30, 2009, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

The excess claim fees for one additional dependent claim has been paid via EFS Web. Therefore, Applicants believe that no fee is due in connection with this response. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 50-3882/WGEC0075, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.